

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3968.095

REMARKS

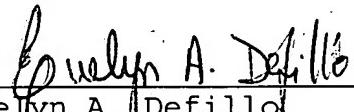
The claims have been amended to conform the claims to U.S. practice and requirements. Claims 2-7 are canceled herewith without prejudice or disclaimer. New Claims 8-14 are added herewith. Support for new Claims 8-13 can be found in original Claims 2-7. Support for Claim 14 can be found on page 2 of the specification.

The specification has been amended to conform the headings of the sections of the application to U.S. practice.

Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added to the claims or the text.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: October 14, 2003

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**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: **EL994980652US**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: **October 14, 2003**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: **Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
Bonnie L. Horst